

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 PRS-01 SY-04 SCCT-01 MC-01 ARAE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /048 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9161

INFO DEPT OF JUSTICE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0191

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, HA, US

SUBJECT: SANSARICQ ACQUITTAL

REF: STATE 18469

1. NEWS OF SANSARICQ ACQUITTAL WILL BE BITTER PILL FOR PRESIDENT DUVALIER AND OTHER TOP GOH LEADERS TO SWALLOW, AND CAN HARDLY FAIL TO AFFECT GOH-USG RELATIONS ADVERSELY. TO ASSIST US TO MINIMIZE ANY DAMAGE, REQUEST THAT YOU INCLUDE IN YOUR FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON TRIAL ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A) DID USG MAKE CATEGORIC DENIAL TO JURY OF HARRINGTON'S ALLEGED CONNECTION WITH CIA?

B) WHAT SPECIFICS, IF ANY, DID DEFENSE ALLEGE ABOUT CIA ACTIVITY IN HAITI?

C) IN WHAT TERMS DID JUDGE CHARGE JURY?

D) HOW DID DEFENSE ARGUE THAT HARRINGTON'S ALLEGED CIA CONNECTION ENTITLED SANSARICQ TO VIOLATE US LAW CONCERNING SHIPMENT OF EXPLOSIVES, I.E., WHAT IS THE PLAUSIBLE RATIONALE FOR JURY'S DECISION IN VIEW OF FACTS AND

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LAW AS PRESENTED AT TRIAL?

E) DID PROSECUTION DRAW FOR JURY PICTURE OF SANSARICQ'S PRIOR, CONSISTENT RECORD OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES WHICH, NOTWITHSTANDING ALLEGATIONS ABOUT A HARRINGTON/CIA CONNECTION, MIGHT HAVE CONSTITUTED EVIDENCE OF SANSARICQ'S CONSPIRATORIAL MOTIVATION?

F) WHAT IS LIKELIHOOD OF SANSARICQ INVOLVING HIMSELF IN FURTHER ILLEGAL EFFORTS TO OVERTHROW DUVALIER REGIME FROM US TERRITORY, AND WHAT EFFORTS CAN AND WILL USG TAKE TO PREVENT SAME?

G) DID DEFENSE MAKE ANY ANTI-REGIME STATEMENTS AND ALLEGATIONS AT TRIAL?

H) WHAT MEDIA COVERAGE DID TRIAL GET? (REQUEST COPIES OF ANY NEWSPAPER OR WIRE SERVICE REPORTS, ESPECIALLY MIAMI HERALD).

2. WHAT WAS REACTION OF COL. ACHILLE, SERGE CHARLES AND POSSIBLE OBSERVERS FROM HAITIAN CONGEN TO OUTCOME? DID ANY OF THEM SUGGEST THIS OUTCOME WOULD PREVENT ACHILLE OR OTHER POTENTIAL HAITIAN WITNESSES FROM TESTIFYING AT U.S. VS. URIBASTERRA?
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